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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/668,219	09/22/2000	Yunzhou Li	2204/A42	9843

			EXAMINER
34845	7590	07/26/2005	LY, ANH VU H

STEUBING AND MCGUINESS & MANARAS LLP
125 NAGOG PARK
ACTON, MA 01720

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2667	

DATE MAILED: 07/26/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>20 May 2005</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-57* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-6,11-13,18-30,35-37,42-45,50,51,56 and 57* is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *7-10,14-17,31-34,38-41,46-49 and 52-55* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some *   c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1.   This communication is in response to applicant's amendment filed May 20, 2005.

Claims 1-57 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section
122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for
patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United
States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international
application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for
purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the
international application designated the United States and was published under Article
21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2.   Claims 1-6, 11-13, 18-30, 35-37, 42-45, 50-51, and 56-57 are rejected under 35

U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Jardetzky et al (US Patent No. 6,392,989 B1).

With respect to claims 1, 6, 19, 24, 30, and 37, Jardetzky discloses a method for bridging

network traffic in a networking device having a plurality of communication interfaces (Fig. 1B).

Jardetzky discloses creating a bridged routing entry in a bridged routing table that is separate

from a main routing table (Fig. 5B) and wherein, the main routing table for routing network

traffic (Fig. 5A). Jardetzky discloses the bridged routing table for bridging network traffic

between a first communication interface and a second communication interface before requiring

a bridge between the predetermined pair of communication interfaces (when failure occurs in the

switch 100-2, the entry of the recovery mappings points to the output port 4:a of link 200 (second

communication interface) instead of 1:a of link 200 (first communication interface), as disclosed

in Fig. 5B). Jardetzky discloses subsequently determining that a bridge is needed between the

first communication interface and the second communication interface and establishing the

bridge between the first communication interface and the second communication interface using

the bridged routing entry (Figure 4 illustrates a failure occurs and affects the switch, step 328,

and implements recovery mappings for failure condition, step 330).

With respect to claims 2, 20, and 25, Jardetzky discloses adding the second

communication interface as an outgoing interface to a routing entry having the first

communication interface as an outgoing interface (the output port of the first entry of the

recovery mappings, Fig. 5B, indicates 200-4:a).

With respect to claims 3, 21, and 26, Jardetzky discloses creating a bridged routing vector

for bridging the first communication interface and the second communication interface (each

switches uses the mapping table to initiate a recovery action when a failure occurs, as disclosed

in col. 7, lines 18-19. This implies that a vector is automatically generated for indicating which

ports in forwarding descriptor to direct the network traffic).

With respect to claims 4, 11, 22, 27, 35, and 42, Jardetzky discloses detecting a failure

affecting communication over the first communication interface (Fig. 5B illustrates that a failure

occurs at switch 100-2).

With respect to claims 5, 12, 18, 23, 36, and 50, Jardetzky discloses wherein the plurality

of communication interfaces comprises a plurality of line cards (Fig. 1B illustrates each switch

comprising a plurality of ports, herein, each port and/or multiple ports can be associated with a

line card).

With respect to claims 13, 45, and 51, Jardetzky discloses a method for protection

switching in a networking device having a plurality of communication interfaces (Fig. 1B).

Jardetzky discloses pre-establishing a bridged routing table separate from a main routing table

(Fig. 5B) and wherein, the main routing table for routing network traffic (Fig. 5A). Jardetzky

discloses the bridged routing table for bridging network traffic between each communication

interface in each of a number of communication interface pairs, where each communication

interface pair represents a working communication interface and a corresponding protection

communication interface from among the plurality of communication interfaces (when failure

occurs in the switch 100-2, the entry of the recovery mappings points to the output port 4:a of

link 200 (protection communication interface) instead of 1:a of link 200 (working

communication interface), as disclosed in Fig. 5B). Jardetzky discloses detecting a failure

affecting communication over the working communication interface (Fig. 5B illustrates that a

failure occurs at switch 100-2). Jardetzky discloses determining a protection communication

interface to protect the working communication interface (Fig. 5B illustrates port 200-4:a has

been used to protect working communication interface). Jardetzky discloses obtaining the pre-

established bridged routing table for the communication interface pair associated with the

working communication interface and the protection communication interface (Fig. 5B) and

bridging the protection communication interface to the working communication interface using the pre-established bridged routing table for the communication interface pair associated with the working communication interface and the protection communication interface (Figure 4 illustrates a failure occurs and affects the switch, step 328, and implements recovery mappings for failure condition, step 330).

With respect to claims 28-29, 43-44, and 56-57, Jardetzky discloses that the computer program is embodied in a computer readable medium and/or a data signal (Figs. 3A-B and 4 illustrate a flow chart for a process for protecting a connection from a given number of failure conditions. The program used to implement the stated flow chart must be stored in a memory to be executed by the CPU and the instructions are electrical signals).

Allowable Subject Matter

3.   Claims 7-10, 14-17, 31-34, 38-41, 46-49, and 52-55 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

4.   Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-57 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

5.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Ichinohe et al (US Pub 2005/0076231 A1) discloses network system having function of changing route upon failure.

6.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anh-Vu H. Ly whose telephone number is 571-272-3175. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:00am - 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chi Pham can be reached on 571-272-3179. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

avl

CHI PHAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINE
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600   7/22/05